

Message Text

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67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-16 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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SUBJ: KREISKY ON SAKHAROV AND CHILEAN EVENTS

REF: (A) VIENNA 7473; (B) VIENNA 7528; (C) VIENNA 7550

1. AT OPENING OF MEETING OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, VIENNA, SEPT 13, CHANCELLOR KREISKY RETURNED, AS PROMISED, (REFTEL A) TO SUBJECT OF SOVIET UNION TREATMENT OF DISSIDENT INTELLECTUALS, PARTICULARLY SAKHAROV. AFTER REPEATING VERBATIM HIS EARLIER COMMENTARY ON SAKHAROV CASE MADE AT ALPBACH FORUM (REFTEL A), KREISKY STATED HE HAD SPOKEN OUT ON TOPIC BECAUSE HE FELT ON BALANCE IT WOULD SERVE USEFUL PURPOSE AND CONTINUED :

"KNOWING THAT INFLUENTIAL LEADERS IN THE SOVIET UNION REALLY WANT DETENTE, I ARRIVED AT CONCLUSION THAT IT WAS NECESSARY TO POINT OUT, WITHOUT SPITEFULNESS AND WITHOUT ANY INTENTION OF INTERFERING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, THAT A PROBLEM, NOT CONDUCIVE TO POLICY OF DETENTE, WAS DEVELOPING. IS INCREASED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH, IN CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND POLITICS POSSIBLE IF SUCH A HEAVY STRAIN I PLACED ON OUR DEMOCRATIC FEELINGS? IT MAY BE TRUE THAT THOSE WHO ENGAGE IN TRADE ARE NOT BOTHERED BY THESE THINGS. BUT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THIS MATTER THEY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN LESS SENSITIVE. REMEMBER,

ONE 'SPOKE OF RELIGION AND MEANT COTTON'. WE SPEAK OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND WE MEAN HUMAN RIGHTS."

2. ON CHILE, KREISKY STATED THAT WHILE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WAS NOT PROPER FORUM FOR DISCUSSION OF CHILEAN DEVELOPMENTS, HE NEVERTHELESS FELT OBLIGED TO REITERATE HIS STATEMENT TO PRESS SEPT 12 THAT UNLESS ONE TOOK POSITION ON EVENTS IN CHILE AND DEATH OF ALLENDE, ONE FORFEITED MORAL RIGHT TO COME TO DEFENSE OF SAKHAROV (REFTEL C).

3. COMMENT: KREISKY'S CAREFULLY PHRASED REMARKS ATTEMPTED TO TAKE AT LEAST PARTIAL NOTE OF RUSSIAN SENSITIVITIES ON SAKHAROV CASE WHILE MAINTAINING AT SAME TIME FIRM DEFENSE OF PRINCIPLE OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM.HUMES

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